The Background Characteristics and Recidivism Rates of Releases from Massachusetts Correctional Institutions During 1995



A. Paul Cellucci

Governor

Jane Perlov

Secretary of Public Safety

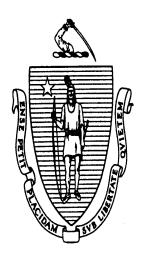
Michael T. Maloney

Commissioner

Kathleen M. Dennehy

Deputy Commissioner

May 2000



Prepared by:

Hollie A. Matthews Hoover Research and Planning

Rhiana Kohl, Ph.D., Director

Massachusetts Department of Correction

Research and Planning Division MCI-Concord/SFU Building P.O. Box 9125 Concord, MA 01742 (617) 727-8857 (phone) (617) 727-0839 (fax) www.magnet.state.ma.us/doc

Acknowledgments

The publication of this report would not be possible without the assistance of many agencies and individuals. Research and Planning would like to thank the Criminal History Systems Board, the Department of Probation, the Massachusetts Parole Board, the Trial Court of Massachusetts, and the Houses of Correction for making data available to DOC research staff. Additionally, thanks to the Department of Correction's Central Records and Programming staff for providing Research with access to the necessary paper and automated files.

The contribution of the following individuals through their data collection, coding, and entry efforts is greatly appreciated: Jennifer Dolan Bilbe, Raymond Youngs, Melissa Lathrop, and Jennifer Kovitz.

This report is accessible on the DOC website at **www.magnet.state.ma.us/doc** and is also available at the following libraries: State Library of Massachusetts, Library of Congress, Washington D.C., Boston Public Library, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Springfield City Library, Worcester Public Library.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please contact Research and Planning.

Abstract

This report presents recidivism rates of 3,443 offenders released from Department of Correction facilities during 1995. Some highlights from this report are:

- Of the 3,443 inmates released from the DOC in 1995, 744 recidivated within the first year post-release, 520 recidivated in their second year post-release, and 240 recidivated in their third year post-release, for a total of 1,504 recidivists over the three year period
- Overall the recidivism rates are respectively, 22% for one year post-release, 15% for two year post-release, and 7% for three year post-release, with a total recidivism rate for all three years of 44%.
- Sixty-nine percent of the males and 72% of the females recidivated within 18 months of their release. Thus, by 18 months the recidivism rate was 30%.
- Altogether 1,201 males and 303 females recidivated within <u>three</u> years of their release
- Of the 744 inmates who were reincarcerated <u>one year</u> post-release, 61% were returned on a parole or probation violation, 47% and 14% respectively, compared to 39% who were recommitted for a new offense.
- Of the 744 <u>first year</u> recidivists, 378 (51%) returned to custody within six months of their release.
- Overall first year recidivism rates for the DOC population released in 1995 (22%) were lower than they were in 1990 (29%).
- Overall, the inmates who were released on parole recidivated at a rate almost twice as high (30%) as those whose sentence expired (16%) the **first year post-release**, but the recidivism rate was equal for the second and third year post-release.
- For the males, the overall recidivism rate for the three-year post-release period for parolees was 55% compared to a recidivism rate of 37% for those released via expiration of sentence. For females the overall recidivism rate was slightly higher for those released via expiration of sentence (43%) compared to 40% for those released on parole.
- Among inmates paroled from the DOC in 1995 who had returned within one year of their release date, those who had a prior parole/probation violation on their present offense were almost twice as likely to return on a violation of parole or probation. First releases had a recidivism rate of 25%, while the first year recidivism rate for parole/probation violators was 46%.
- Younger inmates generally have a higher rate of recidivism.

Table of Contents

		Nature of Present Offense	23
Acknowledgments	i		
		Present Offense	24
Abstract	ii	Person Offense	24
		Sex Offense	24
Table of Contents	iii	Property Offense	25
		Drug Offense	25
Introduction	1	'Other' Offenses	25
Method	1	Personal Background Characteristics	26
Section One: 1995 Recidivism Rates,	3	Age at Incarceration	27
First year Post-Release		Race/Ethnicity	27
Type of Return	3	Sex	27
Disposition of New Arrest	4	Marital Status	28
New Offense	4	Prior Address	28
Time Until Return	5	Last Grade Completed	29
Institution Released From	5	Military Discharge	29
Type of Release	8		
Offender Characteristics	9	Release follow-up Outcomes	30
Section Two: 1995 Recidivism Rates,	10	Arrest Disposition by New Offense for Recidivists	
Three Years Post-Release		31	
Type of Return	11		
Disposition of New Arrest	12	Appendix: Technical Notes	32
New Offense	13		
Time Until Return	14	Table 32 Reason for Exclusion by Committing	
Institution Released From	15	Institution, 1994 Releases	32
Type of Release	17	Table 33: 1994 Recidivism Rates Including	
Offender Characteristics	20	'Time Served' Less Than 30 Days, by Sex	32
Section 3: Statistical Tables, 1995 Recidivism,	21	Glossary	33
Three Years Post-Release			

Introduction

This report presents a statistical description and the recidivism rates of offenders released to the street via expiration of sentence, good conduct discharge, or parole

from Massachusetts Department of Correction (DOC) facilities during 1995.

Recidivism rates presented in Section One only reflect those calculated for inmates who were reincarcerated one year post-release. Statistics presented in Section Two include data regarding recidivism rates three years post-release. This report reflects the first Recidivism Report produced by the Department of Correction where recidivism data has been expanded to a three year follow-up period. There are two major reasons for this change. First, we wanted to improve our ability to compare our finding with those collected nationally and from other states, many of whom report recidivism rates in a three year outlook. Second, by increasing the comprehensiveness of the data collected we are able to analyze the rate of recidivism on a larger scope. This is particularly important, since many offenders may get arrested within the first year or two of being released, but not necessarily convicted and incarcerated until over a year after being released.

Information contained in this report includes recidivism rates with regard to release variables, nature of present offense, personal background, and release follow-up variables. Each table contains information describing characteristics of offenders released during 1995 and the recidivism rates for each of the categories of statistical data for these offenders.

There are three main sections to this report:

Section One discusses selected variables in relation to recidivism rates for offenders who returned within the <u>first year</u> of the three year follow-up period. Some comparisons are made between the recidivism rates for the years 1990-1995.

Section Two discusses recidivism rates of offenders who returned within the three year follow-up period.

Section Three is composed solely of statistical tables. Information in this section is divided into categories of

first year return, second year return, third year return, and total number of recidivists.



A recidivist is defined as any release (only inmates released off of a commitment of at least 30 days are included in this study) who is reincarcerated in a Massachusetts state correctional institution, or to a house of correction/jail for at least 30 days within three years

of their date of release to the street. For example, if an inmate was released from a state facility on 5-1-95, in order to be considered a recidivist they would have to be recommitted by 5-1-98 for at least 30 days. This includes parole/probation violators as well as those offenders sentenced for new crimes. The offenders first commitment of at least 30 days is used in the study.

Recidivism data is manually collected through various sources. The sources used to compile recidivism information include the Department of Correction VAX Inmate Database, Board of Probation (BOP) criminal history data, DOC inmate six-part folders, and folders maintained by the Parole Board. Additionally, phone calls are placed to courts and county houses of correction to gather additional information on particular cases.

During 1995, there were 3,443 releases from DOC facilities where the offender had been incarcerated in a state facility for at least 30 days. This included 2,718 males and 725 females. Any release of an offender who was incarcerated for less than 30 days or where the release was not to the community (i.e., released to a new sentence at a state, Federal or county facility, or released to and held on a warrant) was excluded from the sample. In the case of inmates transferred from houses of correction to Longwood Treatment Center, the time spent in county facilities was not counted toward the 30 day required stay. An analysis of the cases excluded from the sample and an explanation of the 'time served' calculation appears in an Appendix to this report (Technical Notes).

Section 1: 1995 Recidivism Rates for the First Year Follow-up Period

OVERVIEW OF 1995 RELEASE POPULATIONThe following is a summary of the 1995 release population, which was utilized to calculate the recidivism rates contained in this report.

- A total of 3,443[†] inmates were released from the DOC in 1995 and are included in this report. Of those inmates 2,718 were males and 725 were females.
- Of the 3,443 total inmates released, 1,312 were released to parole and 2,131 were released via expiration of sentence.
- Of the 3,443 inmates released, 87 were released from a maximum security facility, 1,722 from a medium security, 417 from a minimum security, 905 from a minimum pre-release, 155 from a state pre-release, and 157 from a contract pre-release.
- Of the 3,443 inmates released, 1,185 served time for a person offense, 872 for a drug offense, 653 for a property offense, 479 for 'other' types of offenses, and 254 for a sex offense.

Type of Return

Table 1: Type of Return by (Sex), 1st Year Post-Release

	<u>Male</u>		<u>Fen</u>	<u>Female</u>		<u>tal</u>
TYPE OF RETURN	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>	N	<u>%</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>
Parole Violation - Technical	151	26%	37	22%	188	25%
Parole Violation - New Arrest	150	26%	15	9%	165	22%
Commitment - HOC	125	22%	10	6%	135	18%
Commitment - DOC	78	14%	80	47%	158	21%
Probation Violation - Technical	7	1%	5	3%	12	2%
Probation Violation - New Arrest	62	11%	24	14%	86	12%
TOTAL	573	100%	171	100%	744	100%

Table 1 presents the distribution of the type of return for recidivists. This table indicates why an inmate was brought back as a recidivist, (i.e. brought back as a violation of parole or probation, or due to a new sentence to a HOC or DOC commitment.) Please note, an inmate can be committed to a state facility to serve a county sentence.

- Of the 744 inmates who were returned after one year, 47% were reincarcerated on a parole violation.
- Thirty-nine percent of the inmates were recommitted for a new sentence.
- Fourteen percent of the inmates were returned to custody on a violation of probation.

The proportions within these categories differ for male and female offenders. For the 573 males reincarcerated during the first year follow-up period, 26% were parole violators with new arrests, 26% were technical parole violators, 36% were committed for new sentences, and 12% were returned to custody for probation violations. For the 171 female one year recidivists, 22% were technical parole violators, 9% were parole violators with new arrests, 53% were committed for new sentences, and 17% were returned to custody for probation violations.

[†] Note: In 1995, a total of 3662 inmates were released from the DOC, 219 did not meet the definition for the study and were dropped from the analysis for Recidivism. Seventeen were a release file error, 3 were not released to the community, and 199 served less than 30 days.

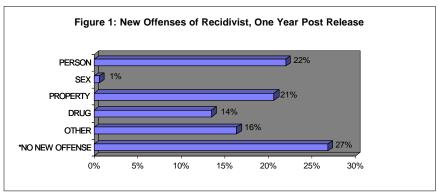
A. Disposition of New Arrest

The disposition of an arrest is the outcome of a case when it goes to trial, (i.e. guilty, not guilty, and if guilty what the sentence was.) When an inmate is returned to custody for a violation of parole or probation with a new arrest, the disposition of the new arrest is used to provide data about the outcome of the case. The disposition does not refer to where an inmate will serve their sentence, but what sentence was received.

- Of the 744 inmates that recidivated within the first year, 165 (22%) were returned for a parole violation with a new arrest, and 86 (12%) were for a probation violation with a new arrest.
- Of the parole violators with a new arrest, 42% received a house of correction sentence, 15% received a state sentence, 7% were filed[‡], 5% received a fine, 3% were found not guilty, 2% were continued, and 25% of the sentences were dismissed.
- Of probation violators with a new arrest, 58% received a house of correction sentence, 26% received a state sentence, 7% of the cases were dismissed, 5% were filed, 2% received a fine, and 2% of the cases were found not quilty.

Unless an offender is returned to custody for a technical parole or probation violation, reincarceration is the result of a new arrest. The variable 'new offense' refers to the *first* offense that results in a conviction of 30 days or more during the one year follow-up period.

• Of the 744 recidivists, 544 (73%) had a return type that involved a new offense: parole violation with a new arrest, county commitment to a house of correction, commitment to DOC, or probation violation with a new arrest. Of the 546 recidivists with a new arrest, 22% of the recidivists were returned for a person offense, 1% for a sex offense, 21% for a property offense, 14% for a drug offense, and 16% for an 'other' offense. The remaining 200 inmates (27%) that recidivated did so by a technical violation of parole or probation, and did not have a new offense.



^{*}Reincarcerated for a technical violation of parole of probation.

_

[‡] When a case is filed it is put away without determined guilt. The court maintains the ability to reactivate the case if further criminal activity occurs.

Time Until Return

Table 2 presents data, by sex, on the length of time the offender was in the community before being reincarcerated.

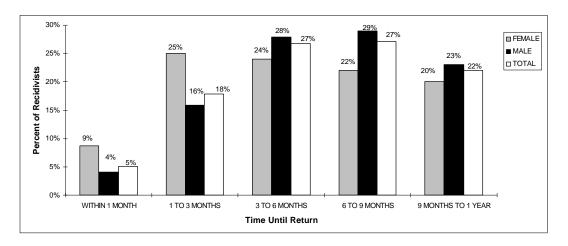
- Of the 744 recidivists, 378 (51%) returned to custody within 6 months of their release.
- For males, 4% returned to custody within one month following their release, 16% between 1 and 3 months, 28% between 3 and 6 months, 29% between 6 and 9 months, and 23% between 9 months and a year after their release.

Table 2: Time Until Return Among Recidivists, by Sex, One Year Post-Release

	Mal	le	Fem	ale	Tot	al
Time Until Return	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>
Within 1 Month	24	4%	16	9%	40	5%
1 Month - 3 Months	92	16%	42	25%	134	18%
3 Months - 6 Months	163	28%	41	24%	204	27%
6 Months - 9 Months	165	29%	37	22%	202	27%
9 Months - 1 Year	129	23%	35	20%	164	22%
TOTAL	573	100%	171	100%	744	100%

• Among female offenders, 9% were returned to custody within one month of release, 25% between 1 and 3 months, 24% between 3 and 6 months, 22% between 6 and 9 months, and 20% between 9 months and a year following their release.

Figure 2: Time Until Return, by Sex, One Year Post-Release



Institution Released From

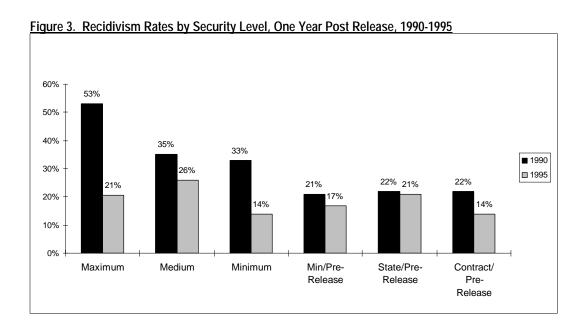
Compared to recidivism rates for 1994, the recidivism rate for releases from maximum security dropped from 35% to a rate of

21% for 1995. It is important to note, the number of releases from maximum security are low, any change in the number of inmates recidivating could make a significant difference in the recidivism rate for releases from maximum security. While the recidivism rate for state pre-release increased from 19% to 21%, the recidivism rate for releases from medium, minimum, minimum pre-release and contract pre-release all decreased from 1994 to 1995, (See Table 3).

Table 3 displays the decrease in the recidivism rate from 1990 (29%) to 1995 (22%). For releases from maximum security facilities, the recidivism rate dropped from 53% in 1990 to 21% in 1995. Substantial decreases were also seen for releases from medium security facilities, from 35% in 1990 to 26% in 1995, minimum security facilities (33% to 14%), and contract pre-release facilities (22% to 14%).

Table 3 Recidivism Rates by Security Level, 1990-1995 (One Year Post-

Tubic 5 Itech	WI 7 1011	II IXUU	co oj	Deca	iii	C (C1, 1)	70 1775 (One Teal Tost
Security Level	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	Absolute Change 94-95
Maximum	53%	41%	40%	35%	35%	21%	(-14)
Medium	35%	34%	27%	25%	28%	26%	(-2)
Minimum	33%	19%	18%	16%	21%	14%	(-7)
Min/Pre-Release	21%	21%	15%	19%	20%	17%	(-3)
State Pre-Release	22%	25%	12%	20%	19%	21%	(+2)
Contract Pre-Release	22%	22%	29%	24%	17%	14%	(-3)
All Facilities	29%	27%	22%	22%	24%	22%	(-2)



Data presented in Table 4 reveal the recidivism rate by the releasing institution and its corresponding security level. For the 1995 first year follow-up period, the recidivism rate was the highest among releases from medium security (26%), compared to a rate of 21% for releases from maximum security. Recidivism rates were lowest for releases from minimum security and contract pre-release (14%), followed by minimum pre-release (17%), and state pre-release (21%).

Table 4: Recidivism Rates by Security Level of Releasing Institution

Security Level*	Non-Recidivists	Recidivists	Total	Rec Rate
Maximum**				
Cedar Junction	69	18	87	21%
Subtotal	69	18	87	21%
Medium				
Bay State	3	2	5	40%
Bridgewater S.H.	10	0	10	0%
Concord	168	87	255	34%
Framingham***	412	146	558	26%
NCCI-Gardner	104	33	137	24%
Norfolk	107	22	129	17%
Old Colony C.C.	77	32	109	29%
Shirley Medium	192	65	257	25%
Southeastern C.C.	193	69	262	26%
Subtotal	1,266	456	1,722	26%
Minimum				
MA Boot Camp****	152	17	169	10%
Northeastern C.C.	105	17	122	14%
Plymouth	101	25	126	20%
Subtotal	358	59	417	14%
Minimum/Pre-Release				
Lancaster	165	38	203	19%
Longwood	222	25	247	10%
Pondville	66	21	87	24%
Shirley Minimum	172	36	208	17%
South Middlesex	124	36	160	23%
Subtotal	749	156	905	17%
State Pre-Release				
Boston State	80	18	98	18%
Park Drive	42	15	57	26%
Subtotal	122	33	155	21%
Contract Pre-Release				
Charlotte House	18	3	21	14%
Houston House	11	2	13	15%
PPREP	106	17	123	14%
Subtotal	135	22	157	14%
Grand Total	2,699	744	3443	22%

 $^{^{\}star}$ $\,$ Security level designations represent security levels from the DOC count sheet of 12/29/95 $\,$

^{**} Souza Baranowski C.C. is not included, as it did not exist in 1995.

 $^{^{\}star\star\star}$ Releases from Hodder House are included in Framingham count.

^{*****}In October of 1995, MA Bootcamp added 128 beds to security level 4 design capacity.

Type of Release

Data presented in Table 5 show recidivism rates by type of release and the corresponding security level of the releasing institution. Secure facilities include maximum and medium security facilities, while lower security includes minimum, minimum prerelease, state pre-release and contract pre-release.

Overall, the recidivism rate was higher for persons released on parole (30%) than for those who were discharged (16%).

Table 5: Recidivism Rates by Type of Release and Security of Releasing Institution, One Year Post-Release

Type of Release		ecure cilitie		Lowe	r Sec	urity	1	otal	
	N	Rec	Rate	N	Rec	Rate	N	Rec	Rate
Parole									
First Release	310	105	34%	646	130	20%	956	235	25%
Parole/Probation Violator	225	110	49%	131	52	40%	356	162	46%
Subtotal	535	215	40%	777	182	23%	1,312	397	30%
Expiration of Sentence/ Discharge									
First Release	925	186	20%	656	62	9%	1,581	248	16%
Parole/Probation Violator	344	72	21%	206	27	13%	550	99	18%
Subtotal	1,269	258	20%	862	89	10%	2,131	347	16%
Total	1,804	473	26%	1,639	271	17%	3,443	744	22%

Individuals released by parole are supervised by a parole officer for a period of time following their release, whereas individuals released by expiration of sentence or certificate of discharge are not, unless they are required to serve a probation term.

In addition to the type of release, recidivism rates also vary based on whether the release was the offender's first release from the present sentence, or if the release followed a prior parole or probation violation (Table 5.)

- Among parolees, those who had a prior parole/probation violation on their present sentence were almost twice as likely to return on a violation of parole or probation. First releases had a recidivism rate of 25%, while the recidivism rate for parole/probation violators was 46%.
- For offenders discharged from their sentence, the recidivism rate for first releases was 16%, while it was 18% for parole/probation violators.
- The recidivism rate was 40% for those paroled from maximum or medium security institutions (secure facilities), compared to 23% for offenders Table 6: Recidivism Rates by Type of Release and Sex of Offender, paroled from lower security institutions.

1st Year Post Release

· The recidivism rate for offenders released by expiration of sentence or good conduct discharge, was 20% from a secure facility, compared to a 10% recidivism rate for releases from lower security.

Table 6 shows recidivism rates by type of release for males and females. For both male and female offenders those released by parole have a higher recidivism rate than those released by expiration of sentence or good conduct discharge, with male parolees having the most pronounced difference in recidivism rates.

Type of Release Males Females Total Rec Rec N Rec Parole First Release 731 180 25% 225 55 24% 956 235 25% Parole/Probation Violator 329 154 47% 27 8 30% 356 162 46% Subtotal 1.060 334 32% 252 63 25% 1,312 Expiration of Sentence./Discharge 1 191 166 14% 390 82 21% 1 581 248 16% First Release Parole/Probation Violator 467 73 16% 83 26 31% 550 99 18% Subtotal 239 14% 473 108 23% 2.131 347 16% Total 2,718 573 21% 725 171 24% 3.443 744 22%

- Males released by parole had a recidivism rate of 32%, while males released by discharge had a recidivism rate of 14%.
- The rate for females released by parole was 25%, while those discharged had a recidivism rate of 23%.

1995 DOC Recidivism

• For both males and females, there was a lower rate of recidivism for first releases than for parole violators, regardless of release type. For females who were paroled, first releases had a recidivism rate of 24%, while the parole/probation violators had a rate of 30%. In the expiration of sentence/discharge category for females, first releases had a recidivism rate of 21%, while parole violators recidivated at a rate of 31%.

• For the males who were paroled, first releases had a recidivism rate of 25%, compared to a rate of 47% for parole/probation violators. For those released via expiration of sentence/discharge, the recidivism rate for first releases was not significantly different than that of parole/probation violator, 14% and 16% respectively.

Offender Characteristics

Table 7 displays recidivism rates (one year post-release) for male and female offenders by race, age at release, and present offense. Overall, the recidivism rate was slightly higher (24%) for females than for males (21%), first year post-release.

As revealed in table 7, Caucasian inmates had a recidivism rate of 20%, while the recidivism rate for Hispanic inmates was 22%, and the rate for African American inmates was 25%. The 'other' category, which includes Asian and American Indian inmates, had a recidivism rate of 26%, however, the numbers of this race category were less than ten in total. The patterns were different for males and females. For males, the recidivism rates for African American and Hispanic releases were 26% and 22% respectively, while the recidivism rate for Caucasian male releases was 18%. For females, the recidivism rate for African American releases was 17%, while Caucasian releases had a rate of 25%, and Hispanic releases recidivated at a rate of 24%.

The section on age at release and sex of offender shows that younger offenders generally have higher rates of recidivism than older offenders. The 19 year old age group had the highest recidivism rate (28%) for males, while the 22 year old age group for females had the highest recidivism rate with 56%. It is important to note, when comparing age variables, that inmates 24 years and younger are presented year by year whereas inmates over 24 years old are grouped into age categories spanning a five year timeframe. Therefore, comparisons between these age groupings should be made accordingly.

In terms of present offense (the inmates governing offense prior to their release to the street), the recidivism rate was highest for property offenders (30%), followed by person offenders (23%), drug offenders (18%), sex offenders (13%), and 'other' offenders (19%). For males, the highest recidivism rate was for property offenders (32%), followed by person offenders (23%), drug offenders (16%), sex (13%), and 'other' (12%) offenders. For female offenders, the category 'other' offense had the highest recidivism rate (28%), followed by property offenders (24%), drug offenders (22%), and person offenders (18%). The sex offense category had a rate of 20% (N=5).

Table 7: Recidivism Rates by Selected Characteristics and Sex of Offender, One Year Post-Release

Selected Characteristics	ı	Males		Fe	emales	Females			
	N	Rec	Rate	N	Rec	Rate	N	Rec	Rate
Race									
Caucasian	1378	249	18%	498	124	25%	1876	373	20%
African American	826	211	26%	112	19	17%	938	230	25%
Hispanic	492	108	22%	110	26	24%	602	134	22%
Other	22	5	23%	5	2	40%	27	7	26%
Age at Release									
17 years	1	0	0%	1	0	0%	2	0	0%
18 years	24	2	8%	2	0	0%	26	2	8%
19 years	47	13	28%	9	4	44%	56	17	30%
20 years	66	16	24%	10	5	50%	76	21	28%
21 years	93	20	22%	14	3	21%	107	23	21%
22 years	103	25	24%	16	9	56%	119	34	29%
23 years	118	22	19%	24	4	17%	142	26	18%
24 years	121	31	26%	25	8	32%	146	39	27%
25 to 29 years	619	128	21%	166	47	28%	785	175	22%
30 to 34 years	574	146	25%	208	54	26%	782	200	26%
35 to 39 years	462	111	24%	134	24	18%	596	135	23%
40 to 44 years	252	33	13%	68	9	13%	320	42	13%
45 to 49 years	120	15	13%	31	2	6%	151	17	11%
50 to 54 years	58	7	12%	12	1	8%	70	8	11%
55 to 59 years	30	4	13%	2	0	0%	32	4	13%
60 to 64 years	20	0	0%	1	0	0%	21	0	0%
65 to 69 years	7	0	0%	2	1	50%	9	1	11%
70 years or older	3	0	0%	0	0	n.a.	3	0	0%
Present Offense									
Person	1077	253	23%	108	19	18%	1185	272	23%
Sex	249	32	13%	5	1	20%	254	33	13%
Property	473	151	32%	180	43	24%	653	194	30%
Drug	649	105	16%	223	50	22%	872	155	18%
Other	270	32	12%	209	58	28%	479	90	19%
TOTAL	2718	573	21%	725	171	24%	3443	744	22%

Section Two:, Recidivism Rates for the Three Year Follow-up Period

Type of Return

Table 8: Type of Return, Male Recidivist, Three Year Follow-up Period

	1st year		<u>2nc</u>	2nd year		3rd year		<u>ıl</u>
Type of Return	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
								
Parole Violation-Technical	151	26%	58	14%	21	11%	230	19%
Parole Violation New Arrest	150	26%	77	18%	29	15%	256	21%
Commitment-HOC	125	22%	142	33%	85	43%	352	29%
Commitment-DOC	78	14%	53	12%	27	14%	158	13%
Probation Violation-Technical	7	1%	4	1%	1	1%	12	1%
Probation Violation new Arrest	62	11%	94	22%	37	19%	193	16%
TOTAL	573	100%	428	100%	200	100%	1201	100%

Table 8 presents the distribution of types of returns for male recidivists who returned within the **three year** follow-up period.

• Of the 1,201 males who recidivated within the three year period, 42% received a new court commitment, 40% were returned for a violation of parole, and 17% were committed for a violation of probation. Fifty-two percent of the 573 recidivists returning in the **first year** returned as a parole violator. For the following two years, the number of male inmates returning as a violation of parole declined, 32% and 26% respectively.

Table 9: Type of Return, Female Recidivist, Three Year Follow-up Period

	<u>1s</u> 1	t year	<u>2nc</u>	d year	<u>3r</u>	d year	<u>Tot</u>	<u>al</u>
Type of Return	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Parole Violation-Technical	37	22%	5	5%	5	13%	47	16%
Parole Violation New Arrest	15	9%	1	1%	0	0%	16	5%
Commitment-HOC	10	6%	8	9%	6	15%	24	8%
§Commitment-DOC	80	47%	63	68%	24	60%	167	55%
Probation Violation-Technical	5	3%	3	3%	1	3%	9	3%
Probation Violation new Arrest	24	14%	12	13%	4	10%	40	13%
TOTAL	171	100%	92	100%	40	100%	303	100%

• For females who returned within the **three year** follow-up period, the largest percentage of the recidivists returned as a DOC commitment. This was the case for all of the three years, with the highest percentage of females returning as a DOC commitment in the second year of the study. During the **second year** of the follow-up period, a total of 77% (71) of the returns for women were for a new court commitment. This declined slightly in the third year with 75% of the women returning as a new court commitment (60% returning to the Department of Correction (DOC) and 15% to a county house of correction (HOC).)

_

It is important to note, due to the fact that there is not a county facility for women, a number of women are committed to the DOC to serve a county sentence.

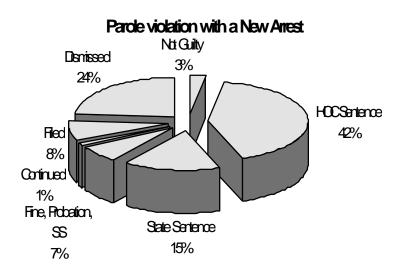
60% Male 55% 55% □ Female Percentage of Recidivists 50% ■ Total 45% 40% 35% 29% 25% 30% 22% 25% 19% 16% 18% 18% 16% 15% 13% 20% 13% 15% 8% 10% 1% ^{3%} 1% 5% 0% HOC DOC Parole Parole Probation Probation Violation Violation Commitment Commitment Violation Violation Technical Technical New Arrest New Arrest Type of Return

Figure 4: Type of Return for recidivist returning within the three Year Follow-up Period, by gender

Disposition of New Arrest

When an inmate is returned to custody for a violation of parole or probation with a new arrest, the disposition of that arrest is used to provide data about the outcome of the case, (i.e. they were found guilty, not guilty, and if guilty what was the sentence, probation, state sentence,....)

Figure 5: Disposition of New Arrest, Parole Violation, Three Years Post-Release

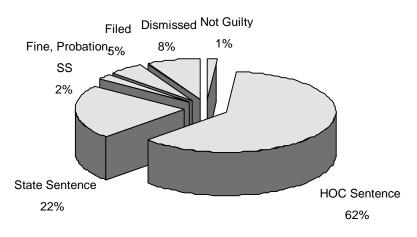


• Of the 1,504 inmates that recidivated within **three years** post-release, 505 returned for a parole or probation violation with a new arrest. Of those, 374 (74%) were convicted of their new offense, with 93 inmates receiving a state sentence, 256 inmates were given a HOC sentence, and 25 inmates received a fine, suspended sentence, or probation.

- Of parole violators with a new arrest, 42% received a house of correction sentence, 24% were dismissed, 15% received a state sentence, 8% were filed, 7% received a fine, probation, or a suspended sentence, and 1% of the cases were continued.
- Of the 272 inmates that were returned for a violation of parole with a new arrest, 176 (65%) of them were convicted of their new offense (new sentence, fine, suspended sentence, or probation.)

Figure 6: Disposition of New Arrest, Probation Violation, Three Years Post-Release

Probation Violation with a New Arrest



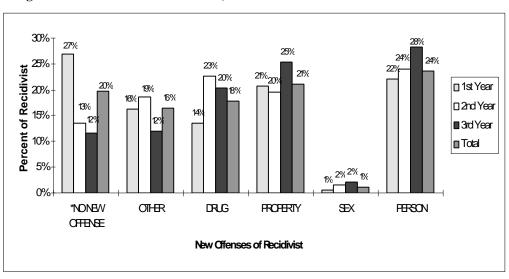
- · At the end of the three year follow-up period 233 inmates had returned for a probation violation with a new arrest. Of those inmates, 198 (85%) were convicted of their offense (received a new sentence, fine, suspended sentence, or probation.)
- A total of 84% of the inmates who were returned for a violation of probation with a new arrest were

recommitted for their offense, 22% receiving a state sentence, and 64% being sentenced to a house of correction.

New Offense

If an offender is not reincarcerated for a technical violation of parole or probation, they are recommitted as the result of committing a new offense. Figure 7 shows recidivism rates by new offense for inmates returning within the three year follow-up period.

Figure 7: New Offense of Recidivist, Three Years Post-Release



- Of the 1,504 recidivists that returned within **three years** post-release, 298 were returned for a technical violation of parole or probation and did not have a new offense. The remaining 1,206 recidivists (80%) had a return type that involved a new offense: parole violation with a new arrest, probation violation with a new arrest, county commitment to a house of correction, or a state commitment to the DOC.
- During the **first year** post-release 744 inmates recidivated. The largest number of inmates returning in the first year were for a technical violation of parole or probation (27%), these inmates did not have a new offense. For the remaining 544 inmates who had a new offense, the person offense category had the highest number of returns with 164 (22%) of the inmates returning for an offense in this category, followed by property offenses (21%), 'Other' offense (16%), drug offenses (14%), and sex offenses (1%).

- Of the 520 inmates who returned during the **second year** post-release, 24% were returned for a person offense, 23% for a drug offense, 20% for a property offense, 19% for an 'Other' offense, 2% for a sex offense, and 13% of the inmates returned for a technical violation and did not have a new offense.
- During the **third year** post-release a total of 240 inmates were recidivists. Again, the largest number of inmates were returned for a person offense, with 28% being returned for an offense in this category.
- For each of the three years in the follow-up period, the person offense category had the highest percentage of recidivists.

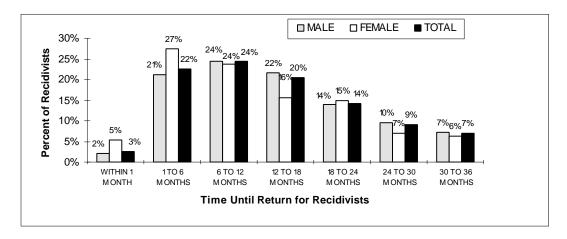
4 1	1	Return
		Kannan

Table 10 shows the length of time an offender was in the community before being reincarcerated, by sex.

• Of the 1,504 inmates that recidivated during the three year follow-up period, 744 inmates (49%) returned to custody within one year of their release date.

Table 10: Time Until l	Male Return by	Sex, Thr	Femal ee Years	e Post-Relea	Total se	
Time Until Return	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>
Within 1 Month	24	2%	16	5%	40	3%
1 Month - 6 Months	255	21%	83	27%	338	22%
6 Months - 12 Months	294	24%	72	24%	366	24%
12 Months - 18 Months	260	22%	47	16%	307	20%
18 Months - 24 Months	167	14%	45	15%	212	14%
24 Months - 30 months	115	10%	21	7%	136	9%
30 Months - 36 Months	86	7%	19	6%	105	7%
Total	1,201	100%	303	100%	1,504	100%

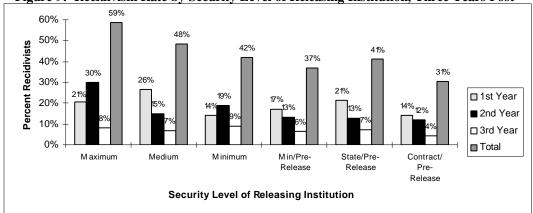
Figure 8: Time Until Return, by Sex, Three Years Post-Release



- Forty-eight percent (n=573) of the 1,201 males that recidivated, did so within the first year of their release to the street. Another 36% of the males recidivated between 12 and 24 months of their release, and 201 male inmates (17%) returned within the 24 to 36 month period.
- For female offenders, 171 (56%) returned within one year of their release date, followed by 92 inmates (31%) returning between 12 and 24 months, and 40 inmates (13%) returning within 24 to 36 months of their release date.
- By 18 months post-release, 69% of the 1,201 males who recidivated had been recommitted.
- Seventy-Two percent of the females who were recidivists returned within 18 months of their release date.

Institution Released From

Figure 9: Recidivism Rate by Security Level of Releasing Institution, Three Years Post



- Of the recidivists returning **first year** post-release, releases from medium security (n=1717) had the highest percentage of recidivists, with 455 inmates (26%) returning.
- During the **second year** post-release, inmates released from maximum security (n=87) had a noticeably higher recidivism rate than releases from other security levels. Releases from maximum security had recidivism rate of 30%, followed by minimum security (19%), medium security (15%), minimum pre-release(13%), state per-release (13%), and contract pre-release (12%).
- By the end of the three year follow-up period, the recidivism rates were proportional to the security level of the releasing institution, with the exception of state pre-release which was only slightly higher than minimum pre-release, 41% and 37% respectively.

Table 11: Recidivism Rates by Security Level of Releasing Institution, Three Years Post-Release

Security Level*	Non-Recidivists	Recidivists	Total	Rec Rate
Maximum**				
Cedar Junction	36	51	87	59%
Subtotal	36	51	87	59%
Medium				
Bay State	3	2	5	40%
Bridgewater S.H.	8	2	10	20%
Concord	117	138	255	54%
Framingham***	304	254	558	46%
NCCI-Gardner	76	61	137	45%
Norfolk	73	56	129	43%
Old Colony C.C.	43	66	109	61%
Shirley Medium	134	123	257	48%
Southeastern C.C.	133	129	262	49%
Subtotal	891	831	1,722	48%
Minimum				
MA Boot Camp****	106	63	169	37%
Northeastern C.C.	64	58	122	48%
Plymouth	72	54	126	43%
Subtotal	242	175	417	42%
Minimum/Dro Dologo				
Minimum/Pre-Release		7/	202	270/
Lancaster	127	76	203	37%
Longwood	201	46	247	19%
Pondville	43	44	87	51%
Shirley Minimum	115	93	208	45%
South Middlesex	84	76	160	48%
Subtotal	570	335	905	37%
State Pre-Release				
Boston State	63	35	98	36%
Park Drive	28	29	57	51%
Subtotal	91	64	155	41%
Contract Pre-Release				
Charlotte House	17	4	21	19%
Houston House	9	4	13	31%
PPREP	83	40	123	33%
Subtotal	109	48	157	31%
Grand Total	1939	1504	3443	44%

^{*} Security level designations represent security levels from the DOC count sheet on 12/29/95.

^{**} Souza Baranowski C.C. is not included, as it did not exist in 1995.

^{***} Releases from Hodder House are included in the Framingham count.

^{****}In October of 1995, MA Bootcamp added 128 beds to security level 4 design capacity

Type of Release

Table 12 presents the recidivism rates by type of release and security level of releasing institution for each of the three years in the study, as well as, the total recidivism rates for the three year follow-up period. In this table, comparisons are made between inmates released on parole and inmates who are released via expiration of sentence/discharge. Inmates on parole are released into the community under the supervision of a parole officer. Individuals released by expiration of sentence/certificate of discharge are not under supervision, unless they are required to serve a term of probation. Comparisons are also made between inmates being released off of their sentence who are first releases and inmates who are being released off of their sentence who have a prior parole/probation violation.

- During the <u>first year</u> post-release, parolees that had a prior parole or probation violation recidivated at a rate almost double (46%) that of parolees whose release off of this sentence was their first release (25%).
- Of the 744 inmates that returned within the **first year** post-release, those who were released via parole had a recidivism rate almost twice (30%) that of those released via expiration of sentence (16%).
- The difference seen in the recidivism rate during the **first year** for releases on parole versus releases on expiration of sentence were not seen in the second and third year of the follow-up period. During the **second year** post-release, the recidivism rate for both parolees and those released by expiration of sentence was 15%, and during the **third year** post-release the recidivism rate was equal, with both parolees and inmates released via expiration of sentence having a recidivism rate of 7%.
- Overall, by the end of the three year follow-up period the recidivism rate for inmates released on parole was higher (52%) than the rate for those released via expiration of sentence (38%).
- Releases from a secure facility had a higher recidivism rate (49%) than did releases from a lower security (38%), **three years** post-release.

Table 13 presents the recidivism rates for type of release and the sex of the offender. Again, whether this was the recidivists first release off of their sentence, or if they had a prior parole/probation violation is also reflected in this table.

- There was only a slight difference in the recidivism rates of males returning in the <u>second year</u> of the study, with parolees having a recidivism rate of 17%, and offenders released by expiration of sentence/discharge recidivating at a rate of 15%. The recidivism rate for males returning in the <u>third year</u> was the same for offenders released on parole and those released via expiration of sentence/discharge.
- Overall, male offenders released on parole had a higher recidivism rate than those released by expiration of sentence/discharge.
- During the **first year** post-release, females recidivated at a higher rate (25%) if released on parole than if released by expiration of sentence (23%). This was not the same for the second and third year of the follow-up period. Females who were released via expiration of sentence who returned during the **second year** post-release had a higher recidivism rate (14%) than those released on parole (10%). During the **third year** post-release, female parolees had a recidivism rate of 5%, where females released by expiration had a slightly higher recidivism rate (6%).

Table 12: Recidivism Rates by Type of Release and Security Level of Releasing Institution, Three Years Post-Release

First Year Post-Release

TYPE OF RELEASE	SECURE I	FACILITIES"		LOWE	R SECU	RITY ^{††}	TOTAL		
PAROLE	N	REC	RATE	N	REC	RATE	N	REC	RATE
FIRST RELEASE	310	105	34%	646	130	20%	956	235	25%
PAR/PROB VIOLATOR	225	110	49%	131	52	40%	356	162	46%
SUBTOTAL	535	215	40%	777	182	23%	1312	397	30%
EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE									
FIRST RELEASE	925	186	20%	656	62	9%	1581	248	16%
PAR/PROB VIOLATOR	344	72	21%	206	27	13%	550	99	18%
SUBTOTAL	1269	258	20%	862	89	10%	2131	347	16%
TOTAL	L 1804	473	26%	1639	271	17%	3443	744	22%

Second Year Post-Release

TYPE OF RELEASE	SECURE	FACILITI	ES	LOWER	R SECUR	RITY	TOTAL		
PAROLE	N	REC	RATE	N	REC	RATE	N	REC	RATE
FIRST RELEASE	310	38	12%	646	103	16%	956	141	15%
PAR/PROB VIOLATOR	225	29	13%	131	30	23%	356	59	17%
SUBTOTAL	535	67	13%	777	133	17%	1312	200	15%
EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE									
FIRST RELEASE	925	164	18%	656	77	12%	1581	241	15%
PAR/PROB VIOLATOR	344	51	15%	206	28	14%	550	79	14%
SUBTOTAL	1269	215	17%	862	105	12%	2131	320	15%
TOTAL	1804	282	16%	1639	238	15%	3443	520	15%

Third Year Post-Release

TYPE OF RELEASE	SECURE	FACILITI	ES	LOWE	R SECUR	RITY	TOTAL		
PAROLE	N	REC	RATE	N	REC	RATE	N	REC	RATE
FIRST RELEASE	310	15	5%	646	44	7%	956	59	6%
PAR/PROB VIOLATOR	225	16	7%	131	13	10%	356	29	8%
SUBTOTAL	535	31	6%	777	57	7%	1312	88	7%
EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE									
FIRST RELEASE	925	72	8%	656	33	5%	1581	105	7%
PAR/PROB VIOLATOR	344	23	7%	206	24	12%	550	47	9%
SUBTOTAL	1269	95	7%	862	57	7%	2131	152	7%
TOTAL	_ 1804	126	7%	1639	114	7%	3443	240	7%

Total-Three Years Post-Release

TYPE OF RELEASE	SECURE	FACILITI	ES	LOWE	R SECUR	RITY	TOTAL		
PAROLE	N	REC	RATE	N	REC	RATE	N	REC	RATE
FIRST RELEASE	310	158	51%	646	277	43%	956	435	46%
PAR/PROB VIOLATOR	225	155	69%	131	95	73%	356	250	70%
SUBTOTAL	535	313	59%	777	372	48%	1312	685	52%
EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE									
FIRST RELEASE	925	422	46%	656	172	26%	1581	594	38%
PAR/PROB VIOLATOR	344	146	42%	206	79	38%	550	225	41%
SUBTOTAL	1269	568	45%	862	251	29%	2131	819	38%
TOTAL	1804	881	49%	1639	623	38%	3443	1504	44%

^{**} Secure Facility refers to releases from a Maximum or a Medium Security Facility.

^{††} Minimum security, minimum pre-release, state pre-release, and contract pre-release are lower security facilities.

Table 13: Recidivism Rates by Type of Release and Sex of Offender, Three Years Post-Release

First Year Post-Release

TYPE OF RELEASE	MAL	E		FEM	ALE		TOTA	L	
PAROLE	Ν	REC	RATE	Ν	REC	RATE	Ν	REC	RATE
FIRST RELEASE	731	180	25%	225	55	24%	956	235	25%
PAR/PROB VIOL	329	154	47%	27	8	30%	356	162	46%
SUB-TOTAL	1060	334	32%	252	63	25%	1312	397	30%
EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE									
FIRST RELEASE	1191	166	14%	390	82	21%	1581	248	16%
PAR/PROB VIOL	467	73	16%	83	26	31%	550	99	18%
SUBTOTAL	1658	239	14%	473	108	23%	2131	347	16%
TOTAL	2718	573	21%	725	171	24%	3443	744	22%

Second Year Post-Release

TYPE OF RELEASE	MAL	E		FEM	ALE		TOTA	L	
PAROLE	Ν	REC	RATE	Ν	REC	RATE	Ν	REC	RATE
FIRST RELEASE	731	122	17%	225	19	8%	956	141	15%
PAR/PROB VIOL	329	53	16%	27	6	22%	356	59	17%
SUB-TOTAL	1060	175	17%	252	25	10%	1312	200	15%
EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE									
FIRST RELEASE	1191	180	15%	390	61	16%	1581	241	15%
PAR/PROB VIOLATION	467	73	16%	83	6	7%	550	79	14%
SUBTOTAL	1658	253	15%	473	67	14%	2131	320	15%
TOTAL	2718	428	16%	725	92	13%	3443	520	15%

Third Year Post-Release

TYPE OF RELEASE	MALE	Ε		FEM.	ALE		TOTA	L	
PAROLE	Ν	REC	RATE	Ν	REC	RATE	Ν	REC	RATE
FIRST RELEASE	731	50	7%	225	9	4%	956	59	6%
PAR/PROB VIOL	329	26	8%	27	3	11%	356	29	8%
SUB-TOTAL	1060	76	7 %	252	12	5%	1312	88	7 %
EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE									
FIRST RELEASE	1191	84	7%	390	21	5%	1581	105	7%
PAR/PROB VIOLATION	467	40	9%	83	7	8%	550	47	9%
SUBTOTAL	1658	124	7 %	473	28	6%	2131	152	7 %
TOTAL	2718	200	7%	725	40	6%	3443	240	7%

Total-Three Years Post-Release

TYPE OF RELEASE	MALI	Ε		FEM.	ALE		TOTA	L	
PAROLE	Ν	REC	RATE	Ν	REC	RATE	N	REC	RATE
FIRST RELEASE	731	352	48%	225	83	37%	956	435	46%
PAR/PROB VIOL	329	233	71%	27	17	63%	356	250	70%
SUB-TOTAL	1060	585	55%	252	100	40%	1312	685	52 %
EXPIRATION OF SENTENCE									
FIRST RELEASE	1191	430	36%	390	164	42%	1581	594	38%
PAR/PROB VIOLATION	467	186	40%	83	39	47%	550	225	41%
SUBTOTAL	1658	616	37%	473	203	43%	2131	819	38%
TOTAL	2718	1201	44%	725	303	42%	3443	1504	44%

Table 14: Recidivism Rates by Selected Characteristics and Gender, Total-Three Years Post-Release

Selected Characteristics	Males		Fem	ales		Total			
Characteristics	N	rec	rate	N	rec	rate	N	rec	rate
RACE									
Caucasian	1378	543	39%	498	211	42%	1876	754	40%
African American	826	415	50%	112	48	43%	938	463	49%
Hispanic	492	235	48%	110	42	38%	602	277	46%
Other	22	8	36%	5	2	40%	27	10	37%
AGE AT RELEASE									
17 years	1	0	0%	1	0	0%	2	0	0%
18 years	24	6	25%	2	1	50%	26	7	27%
19 years	47	30	64%	9	5	56%	56	35	63%
20 years	66	38	58%	10	7	70%	76	45	59%
21 years	93	46	49%	14	4	29%	107	50	47%
22 years	103	51	50%	16	11	69%	119	62	52%
23 years	118	59	50%	24	9	38%	142	68	48%
24 years	121	67	55%	25	11	44%	146	78	53%
25 to 29 years	619	283	46%	166	76	46%	785	359	46%
30 to 34 years	574	277	48%	208	95	46%	782	372	48%
35 to 39 years	462	203	44%	134	52	39%	596	255	43%
40 to 44 years	252	74	29%	68	24	35%	320	98	31%
45 to 49 years	120	45	38%	31	6	19%	151	51	34%
50 to 54 years	58	12	21%	12	1	8%	70	13	19%
55 to 59 years	30	7	23%	2	0	0%	32	7	22%
60 to 64 years	20	3	15%	1	0	0%	21	3	14%
65 to 69 years	7	0	0%	2	1	50%	9	1	11%
70 years or older	3	0	0%	0	0	n.a.	3	0	0%
PRESENT OFFENSE									
Person	1077	551	51%	108	37	34%	1185	588	50%
Sex	249	70	28%	5	3	60%	254	73	29%
Property	473	257	54%	180	84	47%	653	341	52%
Drug	649	247	38%	223	88	39%	872	335	38%
Other	270	76	28%	209	91	44%	479	167	35%
TOTAL	2718	1201	44%	725	303	42%	3443	1504	44%

Table 14 displays the recidivism rate for males and females by race, age, and present offense, **three years** post-release. Overall, the recidivism rate was slightly higher for males (44%) than it was for females (42%), at the end of the three year follow-up period.

As presented in the above table, Caucasians had a recidivism rate of 40%, while African Americans had a recidivism rate of 49%, and the recidivism rate for Hispanic inmates was 46%. The 'other' category (n=27), which includes Asian and American Indian inmates, had a recidivism rate of 37%. For males, the recidivism rate for African American and Hispanic inmates was 50% and 48% respectively, while the recidivism rate for Caucasian male releases was 39%. For females, African Americans recidivated at a rate of 49%, whereas, Hispanic females had a recidivism rate of 46%, and Caucasian females had a recidivism rate of 40%.

The section on age of the offender reveals that for both males and females, the younger inmates had the highest recidivism rates. For males, the 19 year old age group had the highest recidivism rate, with 64% of these offenders recidivating. The 20 year old age group had the highest recidivism rate for females, with 70% of these inmates being a recidivist. Please note, the inmates in the 24 years or younger categories are presented year by year, whereas, the inmates over 24 years in age where placed into categories encompassing a five year time frame.

For the present offense category (the inmates governing offense prior to their release to the street), property offense had the highest recidivism rate (52%), followed by person offense (50%), drug offense (38%), 'other' offenses (35%), and sex offense with a rate of 29%. For males, the person offense category had the highest recidivism rate, with 551 offenders (51%) returning. For the females, sex offense (n=5) had the highest recidivism rate (60%), followed by property offense (47%).

Section Three consists solely of statistical tables. When examining the tables, the reader should note the following: (1) 'N' represents the number of releases who fall into the corresponding category in the table; (2) 'Rec' represents the number of releases who are recidivists; (3) 'Rate' (Recidivism Rate) represents the percentage of releases in that category who have recidivated; (4) Some tables may not add to 100% due to rounding; and (5) The social demographic variables race/ethnicity, marital status, prior address, last grade completed, and military discharge are self-reported by the offender at the time of commitment.

Section Three: Statistical Tables, 1995 Recidivism Release Characteristics, Three Years Post-Release

<u>Table 15</u>

		1 st \	/ear	2 nd Y	2 nd Year		'ear	Total	Rate
Type of Release	N	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate
Parole	1312	397	30%	200	15%	88	7%	685	52%
Discharge/Expiration	2131	347	16%	320	15%	152	7%	819	38%
Total	3443	744	22%	520	15%	240	7%	1504	44%

Table 16

		1 st \	⁄ear	2 nd	Year	3 rd	Year	To	otal
Length of Incarceration	N	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate
Less Than 6 Months	1028	226	22%	123	12%	64	6%	413	40%
6 To 12 Months	499	104	21%	98	20%	40	8%	242	48%
1 To 2 Years	643	167	26%	89	14%	41	6%	297	46%
2 To 3 Years	478	101	21%	77	16%	41	9%	219	46%
3 To 5 Years	459	101	22%	85	19%	27	6%	213	46%
5 To 10 Years	281	40	14%	44	16%	23	8%	107	38%
10 To 15 Years	46	5	11%	4	9%	4	9%	13	28%
15 or More Years	9	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	3443	744	22%	520	15%	240	7%	1504	44%

Table 17

		1 st Ye	ear	2 nd Ye	ear	3 rd Ye	ear	Tota	I
Age at Release	N	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate
17 Years	2	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
18 Years	26	2	8%	2	8%	3	12%	7	27%
19 Years	56	17	30%	14	25%	4	7%	35	63%
20 Years	76	21	28%	15	20%	9	12%	45	59%
21 Years	107	23	21%	20	19%	7	7%	50	47%
22 Years	119	34	29%	19	16%	9	8%	62	52%
23 Years	142	26	18%	28	20%	14	10%	68	48%
24 Years	146	39	27%	26	18%	13	9%	78	53%
25 to 29 Years	785	175	22%	124	16%	60	8%	359	46%
30 To 34 Years	782	200	26%	119	15%	53	7%	372	48%
35 To 39 Years	596	135	23%	91	15%	29	5%	255	43%
40 To 44 Years	320	42	13%	35	11%	21	7%	98	31%
45 to 49 Years	151	17	11%	23	15%	11	7%	51	34%
50 to 54 Years	70	8	11%	2	3%	3	4%	13	19%
55 to 59 Years	32	4	13%	0	0%	3	9%	7	22%
60 to 64 Years	21	0	0%	2	10%	1	5%	3	14%
65 to 69 Years	9	1	11%	0	0%	0	0%	1	11%
70 Years or older	3	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	3443	744	22%	520	15%	240	7%	1504	44%

Nature of Present Offense

Table 18

		1 st `	Year	2 nd	Year	3 rd	Year	Tot	al
*Present Offense	N	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate
Person	1185	272	23%	214	18%	102	9%	588	50%
Sex	254	33	13%	26	10%	14	6%	73	29%
Property	653	194	30%	100	15%	47	7%	341	52%
Drug	872	155	18%	128	15%	52	6%	335	38%
Other	479	90	19%	52	11%	25	5%	167	35%
Total	3443	744	22%	520	15%	240	7%	1504	44%

^{*} Governing offense category served by inmates when released

Table 19

		1 st \	Year	2 nd	Year	3 rd	year	Tota	al
Person Offenses	N	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate
Unarmed Assault	14	5	36%	3	21%	2	14%	10	71%
Armed Robbery	475	125	26%	96	20%	47	10%	268	56%
Other Person Offense	34	7	21%	7	21%	4	12%	18	53%
Armed Assault	81	18	22%	15	19%	8	10%	41	51%
Kidnapping	10	3	30%	1	10%	1	10%	5	50%
Unarmed Robbery	170	40	24%	33	19%	11	6%	84	49%
Assault & Battery, DW	193	36	19%	34	18%	16	8%	86	45%
Murder-2	7	1	14%	1	14%	1	14%	3	43%
Assault w/ Intent To Murder	35	7	20%	6	17%	2	6%	15	43%
Assault, Other	63	15	24%	9	14%	3	5%	27	43%
Murder-1	3	0	0%	0	0%	1	33%	1	33%
Manslaughter	76	12	16%	7	9%	6	8%	25	33%
Vehicular Homicide	24	3	13%	2	8%	0	0%	5	21%
Subtotal	1185	272	23%	214	18%	102	9%	588	50%
Not a Person Offense	2258	472	21%	306	14%	138	6%	916	41%
Total	3443	744	22%	520	15%	240	7%	1504	44%

<u>Table 20</u>

		1 st \	ear/	2 nd \	/ear	3 rd \	/ear	Tot	al
Sex Offenses	N	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate
Crimes against chastity/Morality	7	1	14%	0	0%	2	29%	3	43%
Assault w/Intent To Rape	26	4	15%	4	15%	2	8%	10	38%
Rape	69	15	22%	8	12%	2	3%	25	36%
Aggravated Rape	28	4	14%	2	7%	1	4%	7	25%
Rape of Minor	102	8	8%	10	10%	6	6%	24	24%
Assault w/Intent To Rape Minor	22	1	5%	2	9%	1	5%	4	18%
Subtotal	254	33	13%	26	10%	14	6%	73	29%
Not a Sex Offense	3189	711	22%	494	15%	226	7%	1431	45%
Total	3443	744	22%	520	15%	240	7%	1504	44%

<u>Table 21</u>

		1 st	Year	2 nd	Year	3 rd '	Year	Tota	al
Property Offenses	N	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate
Possession of Burglary Tools	5	3	60%	2	40%	0	0%	5	100%
Burglary	287	96	33%	51	18%	22	8%	169	59%
Vehicle Theft	55	19	35%	8	15%	4	7%	31	56%
Burglary-Armed	23	7	30%	1	4%	5	22%	13	57%
Forgery-Uttering	25	7	28%	4	16%	3	12%	14	56%
Receiving Stolen Goods	38	12	32%	6	16%	2	5%	20	53%
Larceny-Person	14	5	36%	2	14%	0	0%	7	50%
Stealing	35	6	17%	8	23%	2	6%	16	46%
Other Property Offenses	25	4	16%	5	20%	2	8%	11	44%
Larceny	107	26	24%	11	10%	6	6%	43	40%
Arson	39	9	23%	2	5%	1	3%	12	31%
Subtotal	653	194	30%	100	15%	47	7%	341	52%
Not a Property Offense	2790	550	20%	420	15%	193	7%	1163	42%
Total	3443	744	22%	520	15%	240	7%	1504	44%

Table 22

		1 st	Year	2 nd	Year	3 rd	Year	Tot	al
Drug Offenses	N	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate
Controlled Sub. not Specified	42	14	33%	4	10%	5	12%	23	55%
Possession of Syringe	24	9	38%	1	4%	3	13%	13	54%
Conspiracy to Violate CSA	31	7	23%	3	10%	3	10%	13	42%
Class-A	196	34	17%	37	19%	8	4%	79	40%
Other Drug Offense	5	1	20%	0	0%	1	20%	2	40%
Class-B	526	85	16%	76	14%	30	6%	191	36%
Class-C	3	0	0%	0	0%	1	33%	1	33%
Possession w/intent	30	4	13%	5	17%	1	3%	10	33%
Class-D	14	1	7%	2	14%	0	0%	3	21%
Class-E	1	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Subtotal	872	155	18%	128	15%	52	6%	335	38%
Not a Drug Offense	2571	589	23%	392	15%	188	7%	1169	45%
Total	3443	744	22%	520	15%	240	7%	1504	44%

Table 23

		1 st	Year	2 nd	Year	3 rd	Year	To	otal
'Other' Offenses	N	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate
Prostitution	79	37	47%	15	19%	3	4%	55	70%
Escape	13	6	46%	1	8%	2	15%	9	69%
Disturbing the Peace	8	3	38%	1	13%	0	0%	4	50%
Other	50	15	30%	5	10%	5	10%	25	50%
Weapons Violation	60	10	17%	12	20%	6	10%	28	47%
Contempt of Court	7	1	14%	1	14%	1	14%	3	43%
Motor Vehicle Offenses	28	2	7%	4	14%	1	4%	7	25%
Operating Under the Influence	234	16	7%	13	6%	7	3%	36	15%
Subtotal	479	90	19%	52	11%	25	5%	167	35%
Not an 'Other' Offense	2964	654	22%	468	16%	215	7%	1337	45%
Total	3443	744	22%	520	15%	240	7%	1504	44%

Personal Background Characteristics

Table 24

		1 st Y	ear ear	2 nd	Year	3 rd Y	'ear	To	otal
Age at	N	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate
Incarceration									
15 Years	2	0	0%	0	0%	1	50%	1	50%
16 Years	0	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	n.a.	0	n.a.
17 Years	33	8	24%	4	12%	2	6%	14	42%
18 Years	81	13	16%	24	30%	7	9%	44	54%
19 Years	140	41	29%	26	19%	12	9%	79	56%
20 Years	144	25	17%	27	19%	12	8%	64	44%
21 Years	154	31	20%	31	20%	15	10%	77	50%
22 Years	137	40	29%	19	14%	12	9%	71	52%
23 Years	137	18	13%	26	19%	13	9%	57	42%
24 Years	145	37	26%	17	12%	12	8%	66	46%
25 to 29 Years	823	212	26%	135	16%	53	6%	400	49%
30 to 34 Years	716	169	24%	97	14%	49	7%	315	44%
35 to 39 Years	484	97	20%	73	15%	23	5%	193	40%
40 to 44 Years	244	31	13%	24	10%	17	7%	72	30%
45 to 49 Years	113	11	10%	15	13%	6	5%	32	28%
50 to 54 Years	53	9	17%	1	2%	5	9%	15	28%
55 to 59 Years	20	1	5%	0	0%	0	0%	1	5%
60 to 64 Years	13	1	8%	1	8%	1	8%	3	23%
65 to 69 Years	3	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
70 Years or	1	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
older									
Total	3443	744	22%	520	15%	240	7%	1504	44%

Table 25

		1 st	1 st Year		Year	3 rd Y	'ear	Total		
Race/Ethnicity	N	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	
Caucasian	1876	373	20%	245	13%	136	7%	754	40%	
African American	938	230	25%	174	19%	59	6%	463	49%	
Hispanic	602	134	22%	99	16%	44	7%	277	46%	
Other	27	7	26%	2	7%	1	4%	10	37%	
Total	3443	744	22%	520	15%	240	7%	1504	44%	

Table 26

		1 st	1 st Year		Year	3 rd	Year	Total	
Sex	N	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate
Male	2718	573	21%	428	16%	200	7%	1201	44%
Female	725	171	24%	92	13%	40	6%	303	42%
Total	3443	744	22%	520	15%	240	7%	1504	44%

Table 27

		1 st `	Year	2 nd	Year	3 rd	Year	Tota	al
Marital Status	N	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate
Married	485	94	19%	61	13%	23	5%	178	37%
Single	2534	573	23%	405	16%	188	7%	1166	46%
Divorced	273	47	17%	35	13%	21	8%	103	38%
Widowed	37	8	22%	2	5%	5	14%	15	41%
Common Law	6	1	17%	0	0%	0	0%	1	17%
Separated	108	21	19%	17	16%	3	3%	41	38%
Total	3443	744	22%	520	15%	240	7%	1504	44%

Table 28

		1 st \	′ear	2 nd Y	'ear	3 rd Y	ear	Tot	al
Prior Address	N	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate
Boston	761	180	24%	136	18%	57	7%	373	49%
Brockton	120	33	28%	20	17%	9	8%	62	52%
Cambridge	55	17	31%	8	15%	4	7%	29	53%
Fall River	73	18	25%	10	14%	11	15%	39	53%
Fitchburg	51	12	24%	10	20%	4	8%	26	51%
Framingham	50	10	20%	4	8%	5	10%	19	38%
Holyoke	53	16	30%	5	9%	2	4%	23	43%
Lawrence	99	30	30%	12	12%	1	1%	43	43%
Lowell	144	34	24%	17	12%	2	1%	53	37%
Lynn	142	38	27%	16	11%	8	6%	62	44%
New Bedford	73	19	26%	17	23%	7	10%	43	59%
Somerville	44	3	7%	10	23%	4	9%	17	39%
Springfield	213	35	16%	38	18%	18	8%	91	43%
Worcester	237	58	24%	44	19%	18	8%	120	51%
Other MA	1200	219	18%	160	13%	88	7%	467	39%
Out of State	128	22	17%	13	10%	2	2%	37	29%
Total	3443	744	22%	520	15%	240	7%	1504	44%

Table 29

		1 st)	year	2 nd	Year	3 rd	Year	To	otal
Last Grade	N	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate
Completed									
3rd or Less	19	1	5%	2	11%	2	11%	5	26%
4th Grade	9	2	22%	0	0%	1	11%	3	33%
5th Grade	20	5	25%	3	15%	0	0%	8	40%
6th Grade	22	4	18%	4	18%	0	0%	8	36%
7th Grade	53	15	28%	8	15%	5	9%	28	53%
8th Grade	141	35	25%	29	21%	9	6%	73	52%
9th Grade	280	66	24%	46	16%	21	8%	133	48%
10th Grade	415	93	22%	68	16%	41	10%	202	49%
11 Grade	413	92	22%	72	17%	23	6%	187	45%
H.S. Graduate/Ged	1067	218	20%	147	14%	65	6%	430	40%
Some Post- Secondary	247	52	21%	31	13%	16	6%	99	40%
16 Years	50	3	6%	2	4%	2	4%	7	14%
17 or more years	16	2	13%	1	6%	0	0%	3	19%
Unknown	691	156	23%	107	15%	55	8%	318	46%
Total	3443	744	22%	520	15%	240	7%	1504	44%

Table 30

		1 st Year		2 nd Year		3 rd Year		Total	
Military Discharge	N	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate	Rec	Rate
No Service	2754	623	23%	423	15%	180	7%	1226	45%
Honorable	210	31	15%	31	15%	8	4%	70	33%
Dishonorable	10	2	20%	2	20%	0	0%	4	40%
Bad Conduct	36	6	17%	2	6%	3	8%	11	31%
Medical	6	1	17%	0	0%	2	33%	3	50%
Discharge Unknown	22	1	5%	1	5%	3	14%	5	23%
Unknown	405	80	20%	61	15%	44	11%	185	46%
Total	3443	744	22%	520	15%	240	7%	1504	44%

Release follow-up Outcomes

<u>Table 31. Arrest Disposition by New Offense, for Recidivists</u> who returned within the three year follow-up period

Arrest Disposition	Person	Sex	Property	Drug	Other	No New Offense	Total
Continued	3	0	0	1	0	0	4
County Commitment	76	3	67	55	55	0	256
Dismissed	31	2	14	13	24	0	84
Filed	7	0	9	7	10	0	33
Fine, SS, Probation	6	1	7	5	6	0	25
Not Guilty	4	1	0	5	0	0	10
State Commitment	34	3	24	21	11	0	93
Subtotal	161	10	121	107	106		505
Not Applicable	196	8	195	161	141	298	999
Total	357	18	316	268	247	298	1504

Of the 1,504 inmates that recidivated within the three year follow-up period, 505 returned as a parole or a probation violator with a new arrest. The outcome of the arrests is presented in the table above.

Appendix: Technical Notes

This study draws its cases from a cohort of offenders released to the community from the Department of Correction during 1995 by parole, good conduct discharge, or expiration of sentence. From the original data file, 219 cases were

excluded for purposes of the recidivism study. There were three reasons why cases were excluded: 1) an error in the data file, i.e., the person was not released or the release was not a parole, expiration, or discharge; 2) the offender was not released to the community, but released to a from and after sentence or warrant; or 3) the offender served less than 30 days in custody prior to release.

It should be noted that in calculating 'time served', the day the person started serving their sentence and the day of release were both credited toward 'time served'. 'Time served' is calculated using the offender's date of incarceration plus any jail credits applied to the sentence while awaiting trial. However, if the offender was received from a house of correction, another state's facility, or the Federal Bureau of Prison, 'time served' does not incorporate jail credit time. If an offender returns from an escape lasting longer than 29 days, or returns on a probation or parole violation, their date of return is utilized as the date of incarceration in the 'time served' calculation.

Table 32 shows an analysis of cases excluded from the study: ninety-one percent were cases where 'time served' was less than 30 days, 8% were due to data errors in the release file, and 1% were because the release was not to the community.

Due to the large number of cases that were excluded from the analysis because 'time served' was less than 30 days, a subsequent analysis was conducted to determine what impact the inclusion of these cases might have on recidivism rates.

Follow-up information was collected on the 176 females and 23 males. For females, sixty-three of the cases were reincarcerated for 30 days or more within the three year follow-up period of their release. Of the 23 males who served less than 30 days, 10 recidivated. Table 26 shows that if these cases had been included in the study, the recidivism rate for females would have decreased by 1%, while the recidivism rate for males would have remained the same (44%). The overall recidivism rate would have dropped 1%, from 44% to 43%.

Table 32: Reason for Exclusion by Committing Institution, 1995 Releases

Reason for Exclusion	Cedar Junction	Concord	Framingham	Other Jurisdiction	Total
Release File Error	11	6	0	0	17
Not Released to	3	0	0	0	3
Community					
Time Served Less	12	9	2	176	199
Than 30 Days					
Total	26	15	2	176	219

Table 33: 1995 Recidivism Rates Including 'Time Served' Less Than 30 Days, by Sex

Sex of Offender	Мо	re Than 3	0 Days	Les	Less Than 30 Days				Total
	N	Rec	Rate	N	Rec	Rate	N	Rec	Rate
Male	2718	1201	44%	23	10	43%	2741	1211	44%
Female	725	303	42%	176	63	36%	901	366	41%
Total	3443	1504	44%	199	73	37%	3642	1577	43%

Glossary

AGE AT INCARCERATION Jail credits are included in

the calculation of age at

incarceration.

DOC Department of Correction

EXPIRATION Expiration of Sentence

GOOD Good Conduct Discharge

HOC House of Correction

LENGTH OF INCARCERATION In the past, was referred to

as 'time served'. 'Time served' was calculated using the offender's commitment date and release date, whereas length of incarceration is calculated utilizing the incarceration and release dates gathered through the recidivism data

collection process.

OFFENSES

Armed Assault Includes assault with intent

to rob - being armed, armed assaults in dwelling houses, and armed assault to steal a

motor vehicle.

Assault - Intent to Murder Includes assault with intent

to murder, attempted murder, and accessory to murder.

Assault, Other Includes assault, assault and

battery, assault on an officer, and assault not before

mentioned.

Assault w/Intent to Rape of Minor Includes assault on person

under sixteen with intent to commit rape, and indecent assault and battery on child

under 14.

Class A Includes possession, sale,

manufacturing, distribution, dispensing of a Class A controlled substance (Heroin, Morphine) or intent to do any

of the above.

Class B Same as above, but for

Class B controlled substance

(Amphetamines, Barbiturates, Cocaine).

Class C Same as above, but for Class

C controlled substance (LSD,

Hash).

Class D Same as above, but for Class

D controlled substance

(Marijuana).

Class E Same as above, but for Class

E controlled substance (Prescription Drugs).

Contempt of Court Includes contempt of court,

violation of a court order, and violation of a restraining

order.

Crimes Against Chastity/Morality Includes unnatural and

lascivious acts, incest, fornication, lewd lascivious cohabitation, open and gross lewdness, child pornography, indecent exposure, and other pornography or obscenities.

CSA Controlled Substance Act

Other Includes nonsupport,

unlawful possession of alcohol, trespassing, false alarm of fire, attempt to commit crime, habitual criminal, resisting arrest, bribery, drunkenness, gaming, and other.

Other Drug Includes possession of

narcotic drugs, stealing narcotics, inducing another to violate the narcotic drug law, sale of narcotics, and operating a motor vehicle under the influence of narcotics (All inactive historical codes). Other Person Includes confining or putting

a person in fear for the purpose of stealing, mayhem, extortion, conspiracy, and violation of

civil rights.

Other Property Includes common and

notorious thief, fraud, and malicious or wanton injuries

to property.

OUI Operating Under the

Influence.

Prostitution Includes common night

walker, deriving support from a prostitute, and prostitution.

Rape of Minor Includes rape of person

under sixteen, and rape of

child.

Receiving Stolen Goods Includes common receiver of

stolen goods.

Unarmed Assault Includes assaults with intent

to rob - not being armed.

Vehicle Offenses Includes motor vehicle

offenses, and leaving the

scene.

Vehicle Theft Includes theft of a motor

vehicle, and use without

authority.

Weapons Offenses Includes weapons offenses,

and weapons violations.

PV or P.V. Parole Violation

SECURITY LEVELS

Maximum Security MCI-Cedar Junction

(Walpole)

Medium Security

Bay State Correctional

Center (7/10/91 and After)

MCI-Concord MCI-Framingham MCI-Norfolk

MCI-Shirley (Medium) North Central Correctional Institution (NCCI)-Gardner

1995 DOC Recidivism

Medium (continued) Old Colony Correctional

Center (OCCC)

Southeastern Correctional

Center (SECC)

Minimum Security Massachusetts Boot Camp

Northeastern Correctional

Center (NCC)

Southeastern Correctional

Center-Minimum

Minimum/Pre-Release Hodder House

Longwood Treatment

Center

MCI-Lancaster MCI-Plymouth

MCI-Shirley (Minimum) Pondville Correctional

Center(PCC) South Middlesex Correctional Center

State Pre-Release Boston State

Park Drive

PPREP (Pre-Parole Residential Environment

Program)

Contract Pre-Release Brooke House

Charlotte House Houston House